

Message Text

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17

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 AF-04 ARA-06 EUR-12 EA-06 ISO-00 AEC-05 AID-05

CEA-01 CIAE-00 CIEP-01 COME-00 DODE-00 EB-07 FPC-01

H-01 INR-05 INT-05 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 OMB-01 PM-03

RSC-01 SAM-01 OES-03 SP-02 SS-15 STR-01 TRSE-00

FRB-01 FEA-01 PA-01 PRS-01 USIA-06 IO-10 /124 W

----- 035324

R 120500Z DEC 74

FM AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1722

INFO AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI

AMEMBASSY ALGIERS

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY CARACAS

AMEMBASSY DOHA

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY LAGOS

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

USMISSION OECD PARIS

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BEIRUT PASS BAGHDAD

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ENRG, KU

SUBJECT: DE LIPKOWSKI VISIT TO KUWAIT

1. WITH ATEEQY AND OTHER KEY GOK OIL OFFICIALS OUT OF TOWN, WE

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HAVE NOT BEEN ABLE YET TO GET AUTHORITATIVE STATEMENT RE GOK

REACTION TO FRENCH ENERGY CONFERENCE PROPOSAL WHICH FORMER MINISTER OF STATE DE LIPKOWSKI DELIVERED HERE LAST WEEK. HOWEVER, PRESS HAS REPORTED THAT GOK WILLING TAKE PART IN SUCH A CONFERENCE BUT ONLY IF PRICES OF OTHER COMMODITIES ALSO INCLUDED.

2. DURING MEETING WITH ACTING UNDERSECRETARY FINANCE AND OIL WITH VISITING AMBASSADOR STERNER, FORMER SUGGESTED THAT GOK ATTACHED GREATER IMPORTANCE TO ARAB-EEC DIALOGUE THAN TO LARGER CONSUMER-PRODUCER CONFERENCE. HE EXPRESSED THE VIEW THAT ARAB-EEC DISCUSSIONS COVERING WHOLE RANGE OF ECONOMIC RELATIONS LIKELY TO CONTINUE THROUGHOUT 1975. HE DID NOT COMPLETELY DISCOUNT CONSUMER-PRODUCER MEETING, BUT HE INDICATED THAT GOK WILL PREFER TO APPROACH SUCH A CONFERENCE THROUGH OPEC RATHER THAN BILATERALLY WITH FRANCE.

3. COMMENT: KUWAITIS CAN BE EXPECTED TO BE WARY OF ANY CONFERENCE LIMITED TO DISCUSSING OIL PRICES. THEY WILL PREFER TO DEFLECT ATTENTION FROM OIL PRICE QUESTION. THEREFORE IT IS NOT SURPRISING THAT THEY PREFER THE ARAB-EEC FORUM. NEVERTHELESS IF A MOMENTUM IN FAVOR OF A CONSUMER-PRODUCER CONFERENCE ALONG THE LINES OF FRENCH PROPOSAL DEVELOPS, GOK WILL PROBABLY TAKE PART. EVEN IN THIS CASE, HOWEVER, IT WILL SEEK TO DEFLECT ATTENTION FROM ITSELF BY HAVING OPEC CARRY THE BALL AS MUCH AS POSSIBLE.
STOLTZFUS

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PETROLEUM, EXPORTERS, IMPORTERS, MEETINGS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 12 DEC 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: CunninFX
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974KUWAIT05324
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740360-0761
From: KUWAIT
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19741240/aaaabinl.tel
Line Count: 86
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: CunninFX
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 08 APR 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <08 APR 2002 by boyleja>; APPROVED <26 MAR 2003 by CunninFX>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: DE LIPKOWSKI VISIT TO KUWAIT
TAGS: ENRG, KU, (DE LIPKOWSKI, JEAN)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005